

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with the Attorney of Record, Peter N. Lalos, on July 13, 2010. Please refer to the attached Interview Summary Form.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims (see version dated March 16, 2009):

In claim 33, line 10: replaced "thereof" with - - of the blades - - for clarity.

In claim 33, line 11: immediately after "means" and immediately before "mounted" inserted - - directly - - to better define Applicant's invention.

In claim 37, line 2: immediately after "each" and immediately before "supported" inserted - - block - - to better define Applicant's invention.

In claim 38, line 1: replaced "said block" with - - each of said blocks - - to correct a minor typographical error.

In claim 38, line 2: replaced "said blade" with - - one of said blades - - to correct a minor typographical error.

In claim 38, line 3: replaced "said engaging blade" with - - one of said blades" for clarity.

In claim 39, line 2: immediately after “member” deleted the second “.” to correct a minor typographical error.

In claim 41, line 3: replaced “thereof” with - - of each blade - - for clarity.

In claim 41, line 4: immediately after “centerline” deleted “when said first end section” and inserted - - . - - instead.

In claim 41, deleted line 5.

The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance.

The primary reason for allowance of the claims is the limitation “means directly mounted on the frame and operatively engageable with the blades for biasingly restraining the pivotal movement of the blades,” which is not found in the prior art references.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anu Ramana whose telephone number is (571) 272-4718. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday between 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Thomas Barrett can be reached at (571) 272-4746. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AR
July 13, 2010

/Anu Ramana/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3775